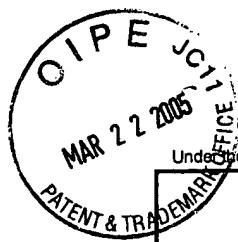


03-23-05

TAN RCE  
3627

PTO/SB/30 (09-04)

Approved for use through 07/31/2006. OMB 0651-0031

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number.

**Request  
For  
Continued Examination (RCE)  
Transmittal**

Address to:  
MS RCE  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

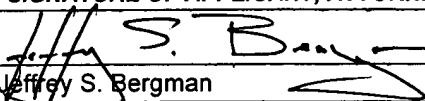
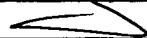
Application Number	09/977,746-Conf. #3552
Filing Date	October 15, 2001
First Named Inventor	David Llewellyn Mallis
Art Unit	3627
Examiner Name	E. K. Nicholson
Attorney Docket Number	09432/183002

**This is a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 CFR 1.114 of the above-identified application.**

Request for Continued Examination (RCE) practice under 37 CFR 1.114 does not apply to any utility or plant application filed prior to June 8, 1995, or to any design application.

1. **Submission required under 37 CFR 1.114** Note: If the RCE is proper, any previously filed unentered amendments and amendments enclosed with the RCE will be entered in the order in which they were filed unless applicant instructs otherwise. If applicant does not wish to have any previously filed unentered amendment(s) entered, applicant must request non-entry of such amendment(s).
  - a.  Previously submitted. If a final Office action is outstanding, any amendments filed after the final Office action may be considered as a submission even if this box is not checked.
    - i.  Consider the arguments in the Appeal Brief or Reply Brief previously filed on \_\_\_\_\_
    - ii.  Other \_\_\_\_\_
  - b.  Enclosed
    - i.  Amendment/Reply  Information Disclosure Statement (IDS)
    - ii.  Affidavit(s)/Declaration(s)  Other \_\_\_\_\_
2. **Miscellaneous**
  - a.  Suspension of action on the above-identified application is requested under 37 CFR 1.103(c) for a period of \_\_\_\_\_ months. (Period of suspension shall not exceed 3 months; Fee under 37 CFR 1.17(i) required)
  - b.  Other \_\_\_\_\_
3. **Fees** The RCE fee under 37 CFR 1.17(e) is required by 37 CFR 1.114 when the RCE is filed.
  - a.  The Director is hereby authorized to charge the following fees, or credit any overpayments, to Deposit Account No. \_\_\_\_\_ I have enclosed a duplicate copy of this sheet.
    - i.  RCE fee required under 37 CFR 1.17(e)
    - ii.  Extension of time fee (37 CFR 1.136 and 1.17)
    - iii.  Other \_\_\_\_\_
  - b.  Check in the amount of \$ \_\_\_\_\_ enclosed
  - c.  Payment by credit card (Form PTO-2038 enclosed)

**SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT REQUIRED**

Signature		Date	March 22, 2005
Name (Print/Type)	Jeffrey S. Bergman 	Registration No.	45,925

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service as Express Mail, Airbill No. EV562271792US, in an envelope addressed to: MS RCE, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on the date shown below.

Dated: March 22, 2005

Signature:  (Toni A. Hill)

22511  
PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE



U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/977,746  
Attorney Docket No. 09432/183002

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : Mallis, *et al.*

Art Unit : 3679

Serial No.: 09/977,746

Examiner : E. Nicholson

Filed : October 15, 2001

Confirmation No.: 3552

Title : WEDGE THREAD WITH TORQUE SHOULDER

Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

22511  
PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE

**Submission Accompanying Request For Continued Examination**

In response to the final Office Action dated December 22, 2004, please amend the application as follows and consider the included remarks.



Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no person are required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number.

Effective on 12/08/2004.  
Fees pursuant to the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2005 (H.R. 4818).

# FEET TRANSMITTAL

## For FY 2005

 Applicant claims small entity status. See 37 CFR 1.27

**TOTAL AMOUNT OF PAYMENT** (\$ 790.00)

Complete if Known	
Application Number	09/977,746-Conf. #3552
Filing Date	October 15, 2001
First Named Inventor	David Llewellyn Mallis
Examiner Name	E. K. Nicholson
Art Unit	3627
Attorney Docket No.	09432/183002

**METHOD OF PAYMENT** (check all that apply)

Check  Credit Card  Money Order  None  Other (please identify): \_\_\_\_\_  
 Deposit Account Deposit Account Number: 50-0591 Deposit Account Name: Osha & May L.L.P.

For the above-identified deposit account, the Director is hereby authorized to: (check all that apply)

Charge fee(s) indicated below  Charge fee(s) indicated below, except for the filing fee  
 Charge any additional fee(s) or underpayment of  Credit any overpayments

**FEE CALCULATION****1. BASIC FILING, SEARCH, AND EXAMINATION FEES**

Application Type	FILING FEES		SEARCH FEES		EXAMINATION FEES		Fees Paid (\$)
	Fee (\$)	Small Entity Fee (\$)	Fee (\$)	Small Entity Fee (\$)	Fee (\$)	Small Entity Fee (\$)	
Utility	300	150	500	250	200	100	
Design	200	100	100	50	130	65	
Plant	200	100	300	150	160	80	
Reissue	300	150	500	250	600	300	
Provisional	200	100	0	0	0	0	

**2. EXCESS CLAIM FEES****Fee Description**

Each claim over 20 (including Reissues)

Each independent claim over 3 (including Reissues)

Multiple dependent claims

Total Claims	Extra Claims	Fee (\$)	Fee Paid (\$)	Multiple Dependent Claims	Small Entity Fee (\$)	Fee (\$)
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	50	25
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	200	100

**3. APPLICATION SIZE FEE**

If the specification and drawings exceed 100 sheets of paper (excluding electronically filed sequence or computer listings under 37 CFR 1.52(e)), the application size fee due is \$250 (\$125 for small entity) for each additional 50 sheets or fraction thereof. See 35 U.S.C. 41(a)(1)(G) and 37 CFR 1.16(s).

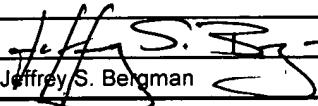
Total Sheets	Extra Sheets	Number of each additional 50 or fraction thereof	Fee (\$)	Fee Paid (\$)
_____	- 100 = _____	/50 (round up to a whole number) x _____	_____	_____

**4. OTHER FEE(S)**

Non-English Specification, \$130 fee (no small entity discount)

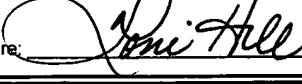
Other (e.g., late filing surcharge): 1801 Request for continued examination (RCE) (see 37 ...)

790.00

SUBMITTED BY		Registration No. (Attorney/Agent)	45,925	Telephone	(713) 228-8600
Signature				Date	March 22, 2005

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service as Express Mail, Airbill No. EV562271792US, in an envelope addressed to: MS RCE, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on the date shown below.

Dated: March 22, 2005

Signature:  (Toni A. Hill)

22511